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COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Activities in the Area of the Eighth Gds Army

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 3 November 1955REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. It was learned that soldiers from the Haupt Kaserne (8302) in Meiningen were entrained on 10 or 11 October 1955. The installation, however, still appeared to be occupied to capacity. It was observed recently that motor vehicles repeatedly went from the installation to the Barbara Kaserne (8301) and vice versa. ²

2. On 23 October, the Barbara Kaserne was occupied to capacity by soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. Intensive activity was observed inside the barracks fence. ²

3. Between 12 and 20 October, the Artillerie Kaserne (8542) in Zeitz was occupied by 500 to 600 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets and, a few, black-bordered red epaulets. On 12 October, 4 T-34/85 tanks were seen in the yard. ³

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4. Between 12 and 20 October, the Infanterie Kaserne (8541) in Zeitz was occupied by approximately 500 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets and 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Six T-34/85 tanks were seen in the yard. On 17 October, 5 trucks carrying ammunition for rocket launchers entered the installation.

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5. Between 11 and 15 October, the units from the Infanterie Kaserne (8521) in Weissenfels returned to their installation which appeared to be occupied to capacity. ⁵

6. Between 11 and 15 October, the Pionier Kaserne (8522) in Weissenfels was occupied to capacity. On 19 October, 3 T-34/85 tanks were seen in the barracks yard. ⁶

7. After 19 October, the Infanterie Kaserne in Weissenfels was again occupied by 1,000 to 1,100 soldiers who wore black bordered red epaulets. On 14 October, 20 trucks, each occupied by 20 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets, 14 x 57-mm AT guns, 2 field kitchens and 2 ammunition trucks went from the Weissenfels freight station to the installation. Four 37-mm AT guns were seen in the

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barracks yard on the same day. On 19 October, 25 trucks with a total of some 400 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets, 12 x 82-mm mortars and 6 x 120-mm mortars entered the installation from the direction of the freight station. After 15 minutes, the column was followed by 4 SU-76 guns, each of which was occupied by 4 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. ⁵

8. During the same period, the Pionier Kaserne in Weissenfels was occupied by approximately 1,000 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, a driving school unit of 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 40 soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets. On 14 October, all quartering buildings appeared to be occupied to capacity. Eight T-34/85 tanks and 1 SU-100 gun were seen in the yard. On 11 October, some 50 tanks reportedly went from the Weissenfels freight station to the installation. ⁶

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1. Comment. The loading may have involved elements of the independent guard battalions which had been withdrawn to this installation from their employment at the border.

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2. Comment. The two installations are believed to be occupied by the 117th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

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3. Comment. Elements of the 36th Gds Tank Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div carried in this installation were absent from the post between 3 and 10 October and presumably participated in the fall exercise of the Eighth Gds Army.

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4. Comment. The Infanterie Kaserne is believed to be occupied by the 67th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. The 24th Gds RL Bn of the division is, however, carried in the Artillerie Kaserne. All rotor vehicle numbers seen belong to the 20th Gds Mecz Div.

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5. Comment. The 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, which is believed to be stationed in this installation, returned to the post from the fall exercise of the Eighth Gds Army between 11 and 19 October. The equipment with 37-mm AA guns and SU-76 guns of rifle regiments is confirmed by the observation of these weapons.

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6. Comment. The Pionier Kaserne is assumed to quarter the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which, upon completion of the fall exercise of the army, is presumably stationed at the installation.

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